IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A ceramic porous sintered body comprising:

a sintered body comprising,

a plurality of ceramic coarse particles, and

a polycrystalline sintered body forming a bonding layer, the bonding layer existing between the ceramic coarse particles and connecting the ceramic coarse particles, wherein

the polycrystalline sintered body includes a plurality of ceramic fine particles having an average particle size smaller than the ceramic coarse particles, ~~and~~

said sintered body has an average pore diameter of 5 μm to 50 μm, and

a ratio of an average particle size of the ceramic coarse particle to the ceramic fine particles is 15:1 - 200:1.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The ceramic sintered body according to claim 1, wherein the ceramic coarse particles comprise single-crystal particles.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (previously presented): The ceramic sintered body according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer is a brittle body having a strength lower than a strength of the ceramic coarse particles.

Claims 5-6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (previously presented): The ceramic sintered body according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer includes at least one sintering aid selected from the group consisting of iron, aluminium, nickel, titanium, chromium and a metal oxide thereof.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The ceramic sintered body according to claim 7, wherein a content of the sintering aid in the bonding layer is higher than a content contained in the ceramic coarse particles.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The ceramic sintered body according to claim 1, wherein the ceramic coarse particles and the bonding layer comprise a silicon carbide material.

Claim 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (previously presented): The ceramic sintered body according to claim 1, wherein a ratio of total weight of the ceramic coarse particles to the ceramic fine particles is 1:1 - 9:1.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A ceramic filter comprising:

a pillar-shaped porous ceramic member having a plurality of cells for a gas passageways in a longitudinal direction of the pillar-shaped porous ceramic member and comprising,

a ceramic porous sintered body including,

a plurality of ceramic coarse particles, and

a polycrystalline sintered body forming a bonding layer, the bonding layer existing between the ceramic coarse particles and connecting the ceramic coarse particles,

wherein the bonding layer includes a plurality of ceramic fine particles having an average particle size smaller than the ceramic coarse particles, ~~and~~

the ceramic porous sintered body has an average pore diameter of 5 μm to 50 μm, and

a ratio of an average particle size of the ceramic coarse particle to the ceramic fine particles is 15:1 - 200:1.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The ceramic filter according to claim 13, wherein the ceramic coarse particles comprise single-crystal particles.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (previously presented): The ceramic filter according to claim 13, wherein the bonding layer is brittle body having a strength lower than a strength of the ceramic coarse particles.

Claims 17-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (previously presented): The ceramic filter according to claim 13, wherein the bonding layer contains at least one sintering aid selected from the group consisting of iron, aluminium, nickel, titanium, chromium, and an oxide thereof.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The ceramic filter according to claim 19, wherein a content of the sintering aid in the bonding layer is higher than a content contained in the ceramic coarse particles.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The ceramic filter according to claim 13, wherein the ceramic coarse particles and the bonding layer comprise a silicon carbide material.

Claim 22 (canceled).

Claim 23 (previously presented): The ceramic filter according to claim 13, wherein a ratio of total weight of the ceramic coarse particles to the ceramic fine particles is 1:1 - 9:1.

Claim 24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (previously presented): A ceramic filter according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the ceramic coarse particle is 30 μm to 70 μm.

Claim 26 (previously presented): A ceramic filter according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the ceramic fine particle is 0.1 μm to 20μm.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A ceramic filter according to claim 13, wherein the average particle size of the ceramic coarse particle is 30 μm to 70 μm.

Claim 28 (previously presented): A ceramic filter according to claim 13, wherein the average particle size of the ceramic fine particle is 0.1 μm to 20μm.

Claim 29 (new): A ceramic porous sintered body comprising:

a sintered body comprising,

a plurality of ceramic coarse particles, and

a polycrystalline sintered body forming a bonding layer, the bonding layer existing between the ceramic coarse particles and connecting the ceramic coarse particles, wherein

the polycrystalline sintered body includes a plurality of ceramic fine particles formed by sintering with the bonding layer having grains of the ceramic fine particles remaining and the bonding layer bridging between the ceramic coarse particles, said ceramic fine particles having an average particle size smaller than the ceramic coarse particles, and

said sintered body has an average pore diameter of 5 μm to 50 μm.